

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 were presented for examination. By the aforementioned Office Action, Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102. Claim 6 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Furthermore, the disclosure was also objected to because of a typographical error on page 5, line 13. The straight portion of the paper length guide was referred with reference number 601. This reference number is inconsistent with the reference number previously used.

By this Amendment, Claims 3 and 4 have been cancelled, Claims 1, 5 and 6 have been amended, leaving Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 pending. Typographical errors of the reference numbers referred in the specification have been corrected, and two replacement paragraphs are submitted accordingly. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration of the Office Action is respectfully requested for the reasons set forth below.

1. Specification

A typographical error of the reference number for "paper width guide" on page 4, line 2 has been amended to **103**.

The typographical error of the reference number for "straight portion of the paper length guide" on page 5, line 13, as point out by the Examiner, has been amended to **501**.

2. Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. 102

Rejection of Claims 1-5

Claims 1-5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Haneda (US Patent No. 5,172,903).

Claim 1 relates to a tray for holding a stack of media sheets for feeding into a printing mechanism. The tray includes an adjustable first and second media guide for accommodating different media sizes. The first media guide is adjusted automatically by manually adjusting the second media guide via a synchronizing means. The synchronizing means includes a rotatable gear interactable with the second guide and a cam in contact with the first guide to transforms linear movements of the second guide into linear movements of the first guide.

Haneda discloses a paper feed cassette having movable width regulation plates (166A, 166B) and a second casing (162) for accommodating different paper sizes. The width regulation plates (166A, 166B) are connected to a pinion gear (169A) via rack gears (167A, 167B). The second casing (162) is connected to another pinion gear (168B) via another rack gear (170). Both the pinion gears (169A, 168B) are integrally formed on a same axis (168). Manually adjusting the width regulation plates (166A, 166B) rotates the pinion gears (169A, 168B), which in turn moves the second casing (162).

In the office action, the Examiner states that the definition of a cam is “rotating of sliding pieces in a mechanical linkage used in transforming rotary motion into linear motion”, and is of the opinion that the pinion gear (168B) is similar to the cam as recited in Claim 1. The applicant respectfully disagrees and submits that a cam is an object which transforms motion to another object which is in sliding contact with the cam (according to Webster’s Revised Unabridged Dictionary). Accordingly, the definition of cam according to the Merriam-Webster’s Collegiate Dictionary definition should be interpreted to mean rotational motion is transformed from one sliding piece into a linear motion of another sliding piece by a sliding motion.

In contradistinction, a pinion gear is a cogwheel with a small number of teeth adapted to engage with a larger wheel (according to Webster’s Revised Unabridged Dictionary). Specifically, the teeth of the pinion gear (or cogwheel) are meshed with the teeth of the larger wheel. Motion is transferred from the pinion gear to the larger wheel by engaging the teeth of the larger wheel with the

teeth of the pinion gear. Accordingly, the pinion gear (168B) disclosed in Haneda does not transform motion to another object which is in sliding contact with itself by a sliding motion, and hence, cannot be taken to be a cam. Therefore, Haneda does not disclose the cam being included in the synchronizing means as recited in Claim 1.

In addition, the pinion gear (168B) is connected to the second casing (162) via the rack gear (170), and hence, does not directly contact the second casing (162) or the first media guide as recited in Claim 1.

Therefore, the subject matters of Claim 1, and Claims 2, 5-6 dependent thereof, are novel over Haneda.

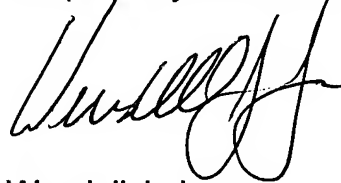
3. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to allow the pending Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 to issue a Notice of Allowance for the present application.

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Respectfully submitted,



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